

REMARKS

The Examiner objected to the drawings because the RESET SIGNAL lines shown Figures 2 and 4 are misplaced. Applicant has previously submitted a proposed corrected drawing, A new set of formal drawings is enclosed with this response.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Pat 5,614,869 to Bland. Applicant submits that Claims 1 and 4, as amended above, are not anticipated by Bland.

With respect to Claim 1, the Examiner maintains that Bland teaches an edge counter that generates a value equal to the number of edges in the intermediate signal that have occurred since a reset signal was generated. The Examiner points to edge counter 61 in Figure 4A and the passages at col. 5, lines 19-21 and 32-39 as supporting this assertion. Applicant must disagree with the Examiner's reading of these passages. The passages state that the counter is incremented on each rising edge, not each edge. Hence, the counter does not generate a value equal to the number of edges since the reset signal. The Examiner maintains that computing the number of rising edges is sufficient to satisfy the limitations of claim 1. While Applicant disagrees with the Examiner in this regard, the above amendment to Claim 1 makes it clear that it is the sum of the number of positive and negative edges that is computed. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom are not anticipated by Bland.

The Examiner rejected Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over 5,614,869 to Bland. Applicant submits that Claim 2 as amended above is not obvious in view of Bland.

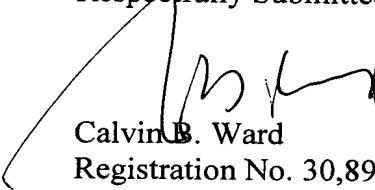
As noted above, Bland does not teach a counter that computes the sum of the positive and negative edges. The Examiner has not pointed to any teaching that would cause someone of ordinary skill to alter the teachings of Bland to provide this feature.

In addition, Claim 2 as amended above refers to the case in which R=2. Upon review of the specification, Applicant discovered that the original R=1 limitation was a typographical

error. The case in which R=2 is particularly advantageous, as the circuitry required to implement the invention is significantly simpler than that needed for other values of R.

I hereby certify that this paper and the corrected drawings are being sent by Express mail.

Respectfully Submitted,



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